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COUNTRY: Czechoslovakia Approved For Release 2006/04/14 : CIA-RDP82-00457R010400360003-8  
SUBJECT: 38th Motorized Infantry Regiment in Beroun 25X1  
REPORT

INTELLOX 5

EVALUATION  25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1   
DATE OF CONTENT  25X1  
DATE OBTAINED  DATE PREPARED 15 January 1952  
REFERENCES  25X1  
PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)  25X1  
REMARKS  25X1

1. Prior to 11 October 1951, the 38th Sokolovsky Mtz Inf Regt  was stationed in Beroun (N 50/L 57) and was subordinate to the 5th Mtz Div in Prague-Smichov. The division was commanded by General Kolar (fnu), who had succeeded Colonel Sevcik (fnu) in the spring of 1950. A Soviet colonel was seen accompanying the division commander during large-scale field exercises and during an inspection in January 1951. The division was subordinate to the military district headquarters in Prague under the command of General Papousek (fnu), who was in Beroun on 5 September 1951 for an inspection. Other regiments subordinate to the division included the Tomase Garyka Masaryka Mtz Inf Regt in Louny (N 51/F 21) and two motorized infantry regiments in Kladno (N 51/L 59) and Terezin (N 51/F 53). (1)
2. After having been only a cadre unit, the regiment was organized into three battalions in October 1950. A fourth armored battalion was added to the regiment on 1 March 1951. It consisted of personnel and equipment of a tank unit from Zatec (N 51/F 10).  such tank units from Zatec were also reassigned to the other regiments of the division. Many officers of the regiment were promoted in August 1951. (2)
3. The regimental headquarters and the 1st Bn were located in the Old Barracks on the west side of the road to Bradka, about 1 km northwest of Beroun; the 2d and 4th Bns in the New Barracks on the east side of the same road; and the 3d Bn in the Vojensky Tabor Barracks, which consisted of low barracks buildings, and was located on the south side of the road to Listice, about 1 km southeast of Beroun. The tanks of the 4th Bn were parked in a nearby brickyard. (3)
4. Officers of the regiment included Lieutenant Colonel Alois Smerhovsky, commanding officer, who in August 1951 succeeded Major Stanislav Krejzik, who at that time was promoted to the rank of lieutenant colonel and was transferred to the MNO in Prague; Captain Juri Kuthan, deputy commanding officer in charge of political affairs; Captain Vincalek (fnu) and Lieutenant Cingr (fnu), political officers since May 1950; Staff Captain Ketner (fnu), chief of staff; Captain Arnold Tichy, assistant chief of staff; Major Sojma (fnu), DOZ officer; Captain Karel Kubin, motor transport officer; Major Kindl (fnu), ration supply officer; Major Jan Odehnal, commanding officer of the 1st Bn; Staff Captain Jan Janout, commanding officer of the 2d Bn; and Captain Stejskal (fnu), commanding officer of the 3d Bn.
5. About 90 percent of the personnel of the regiment were Czechs and 10 percent were Slovaks.

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6. The regiment was organized into a headquarters, a headquarters company, a technical company consisting of a signal, an engineer and a reconnaissance platoon, a 1st Inf Bn, a 2d TK Bn, a 3d FTK Bn and a 4th Tank Bn. The 1st Bn consisted of 4 companies of 4 platoons each and was considerably below its authorized strength of 528 men. In October 1951, the actual strength of the regiment was estimated at 850 men, with the 1st Bn having a strength of more than 200, the 2d Bn about 180, the 3d and 4th Bns about 150 each, the headquarters company about 90 and the technical company about 60 men. (4)
7. The regiment was equipped with Czech rifles, model 48-B submachine guns, light and heavy machine guns, about 15 AT guns, an undetermined number of 820-mm mortars, 9 120-mm mortars, about 25 T-34 tanks and 15 Cromwell tanks. German rifles and submachine guns had been turned in during April 1951. Motor vehicles of the regiment included about 120 model HKL-10 track-laying armored vehicles and an undetermined number of trucks of various types, jeeps and motorcycles.
8. Combined-arms training of the regiment was last conducted at the Kaiserwald troop training grounds from 15 May to 15 August 1951. The four regiments of the division mentioned in paragraph 1 participated in the exercises. They repeatedly used live ammunition. Training and combat alerts were conducted at the military post. The troops were alerted for combat readiness by the code word Assault-444 and had to be ready for departure within one hour. They were issued 60 rounds for each rifle, 120 rounds for each submachine gun and 100 rounds for each light machine gun.
9. On 1 October 1950, a new Soviet-style service manual was issued, containing chapters on disciplinary order, interior duty and post duty.

25X1 10. [ ] the 8th Tank Div was stationed in Caslav (O 50/M 47). (5)

25X1 [ ] Comments.

- (1) The report confirms the 38th Sokolovsky Mtz Inf Regt in Beroun, which has been carried as battalion to date, and General Papousek (fnu) as the commanding general of the 1st ID in Prague. [ ] the 5th Mtz Inf Bn was stationed in Kladno and the 23th Mtz Inf Bn, in Terezin. Both of them were subordinate to the 5th Mtz Inf Div and were probably reorganized into regiments in the fall of 1950. This is the first report to mention an infantry regiment with the surname Tomase Garyka Masaryka. Although a component of the 5th Mtz Inf Div was previously reported to be stationed in Louny, it is doubted that the division should have as many as four infantry regiments.
- (2) The 38th Inf Bn was apparently reorganized into a mechanized regiment. This would confirm a report which referred to the 5th Div as 5th Mecz Div. The 21st Tank Brig, which undoubtedly furnished personnel to the mechanized regiments, has been carried in Zatec. Since tanks and SP guns from Zatec were reported to have been in the Kaiserwald in July 1951, it is believed that tank units of the 5th Mecz Div continue to be stationed in Zatec. See MGL - 15527.
- (3) The report confirms statements of November 1951 by a refugee. [ ]
- (4) TK (Tezka Kulomety) battalion means heavy machine gun battalion, and PTK (Propiletadlove Tezke Kulomety) battalion means heavy AA machine gun battalion. The organization of the regiment as mentioned in the report is not believed to be the standard organization of a Czech mechanized regiment. Source may have confused the battalions and companies, or the organization specified may have been for training purposes only.
- (5) An 8th Mtz Inf Div has been carried in the Kolin-Caslav area. [ ] Item 12 of the Annex confirms previous information stating that the 1927 class was due for discharge on 20 October 1951. [ ]

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